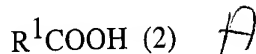


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a carboxylic acid of formula (2);



wherein R^1 denotes

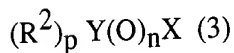
a hydrogen atom,

an optionally substituted alkyl group,

an optionally substituted aryl group, or

an optionally substituted hetero ring, and

an organic base to a solution of a carboxylic acid activating agent of formula (3);



wherein R^2 denotes

an optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbyl group,

an optionally substituted aromatic hydrocarbyl,

an optionally substituted chain or cyclic alkoxy group, or

an optionally substituted aryloxy group,

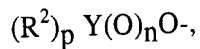
Y denotes

a carbon atom, a phosphorus atom, or a sulfur atom,

X denotes

a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, a cyano

group or a group of formula:



wherein R^2 is the same as defined above,

WHEN
 R^2 IS ALKOXY,
Y IS CARBON,
IT'S A CARBONATE, WHICH
IS NOT
WHEN
THE GROUP
IS THE CLIP
INFORMATION

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~~n and p are an integer of 1 or 2; and~~

~~when Y is a carbon atom, n=1 and p=1,~~

~~when Y is a phosphorous atom, n=1 and p=2, and~~

~~when Y is sulfur atom, n=2 and p=1 and R² denotes an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group.~~

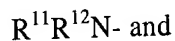
5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein R¹ denotes

a hydrogen atom, a straight, branched or cyclic (C1-C17)alkyl group, a (C2-C5)alkenyl or (C5-C6)cycloalkenyl group, a (C3-C4) alkynyl group, a phenyl, tolyl, biphenyl or naphthyl group, an aralkyl, arylalkenyl or arylalkynyl group, a pyridyl group, a 1,3-oxazole group, a 1,3-thiazole group, a furyl group, a tetrahydrofuryl group, a thienyl group, an imidazole or (C2-C11)alkyleneimine group of which nitrogen atoms are protected by a protecting,

wherein said groups other than hydrogen atom may be substituted with

(a) a hydroxy group or a halogen atom, or

(b) an amino group of formula:



optionally further with at least one group selected from

a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, a 4-pyrimidinone-3-yl group, an alkyl(C1-C3)dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with a protected amino and carboxyl groups, a mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy or imidazolyl group, wherein

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Q2
~~R¹¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino-protecting group,~~

~~R¹² represents an amino-protecting group, or a group of formula: R¹³-CO,~~

~~wherein R¹³ represents a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group or a hetero ring, which may be substituted with (c) a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a group of formula: R¹⁴R¹⁵N- and optionally further with at least one group selected from~~

Sub C1
~~a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, an alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with an amino and carboxyl groups, an amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy, imidazolyl group,~~

~~wherein R¹⁴ is an amino-protecting group, and~~

~~R¹⁵ represents a hydrogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group, a hetero ring or an amino-protecting group,~~

~~provided that said amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy and imidazolyl groups which may be present in R¹, R², and substituent groups contained therein are in a protected form,~~

~~R² denotes a chain, branched or cyclic (C1-C6) alkyl group, which may be substituted with a halogen atom, a phenyl which may be substituted with a halogen or (C1-C3) alkyl group, a chain or cyclic (C1-C6) alkoxy group, or a phenoxy group which may be substituted with a halogen or C1-C3 alkyl group.~~

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein R¹ represents a group of formula (6): R¹¹R¹²N-A- (6)

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A² wherein R¹¹ and R¹² are as defined in claim 5, and represents an alkylene group, an alkenylene group, an alkynylene group, an arylene group, an aralkylene group, an arylalkenylene group, an arylalkynylene group, an oxazole ring, a thiazole ring, or an imidazole ring.

A³ 9. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19 or 20, wherein said carboxylic acid activating agent of formula (3) is an acid chloride.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the amount of the organic base is 0.9 to 2 moles per mol of said carboxylic acid in the production of the mixed acid anhydride of formula (1).

Sub C¹ 11. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the amount of the carboxylic acid activating agent is 0.95 to 1.05 moles per mol of the carboxylic acid of formula (2).

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the amount of the organic base is 0.95 to 1.05 mol per mol of the carboxylic acid of formula (2).

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the amount of the organic base per mol of the carboxylic acid of formula (2) is substantially equimolar.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the organic base is N-methylmorpholine.

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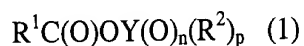
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15. (Amended) The method according to claim 18, 19, or 20, wherein the base and the carboxylic acid are simultaneously added.

Please add the following new claims:

~~Q4~~

102 17. (New) A method for producing a mixed acid anhydride of formula (1):



wherein R^1 , R^2 , Y, n and p denote the same as defined below, which comprises simultaneously adding

a carboxylic acid of formula (2):



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wherein R^1 denotes

a hydrogen atom, a straight, branched or cyclic (C1-C18) alkyl group, a (C2-C5) alkenyl or (C5-C6) cycloalkenyl group,

a (C3-C4) alkynyl group, a phenyl, tolyl, biphenyl or naphthyl group, an aralkyl, arylalkenyl or arylalkynyl group, a pyridyl group, a 1,3-oxazole group, a 1,3-thiazole group, a furyl group, a tetrahydrofuryl group, a thienyl group,

an imidazole or (C2-C11) alkyleneimine group of which nitrogen atoms are protected by a protecting group,

wherein said groups other than hydrogen atom may be substituted with

(c) a hydroxy group or a halogen atom, or

(d) an amino group of formula:



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optionally further with at least one group selected from

a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, a 4-pyrimidinone-3-yl group, an alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with an amino and carboxyl groups, a mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy or imidazolyl group, wherein

R^{11} represents a hydrogen atom or an amino-protecting group,

R^{12} represents an amino-protecting group, or a group of formula: $R^{13}-CO$,

wherein R^{13} represents a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group or a hetero ring, which may be substituted with (c) a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a group of formula: $R^{14}R^{15}N$ - and optionally further with at least one group selected from

a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, an alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with an amino and carboxyl groups, an amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy, imidazolyl group,

wherein R^{14} is an amino-protecting group, and

R^{15} represents a hydrogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group, a hetero ring or an amino-protecting group, and

an organic base to a solution of a carboxylic acid activating agent of formula (3):

$$(R^2)_p Y(O)_n X \quad (3)$$

wherein R^2 denotes

a chain, branched or cyclic (C1-C6) alkyl group, which may be substituted with a halogen atom,

a phenyl which may be substituted with a halogen or (C1-C3) alkyl group,

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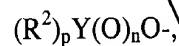
a chain or cyclic (C1-C6) alkoxy group, or

a phenyl group which may be substituted with a halogen or C1-C3 alkyl group,

Y denotes a carbon atom, a phosphorus atom, or a sulfur atom,

X denotes a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, a cyano

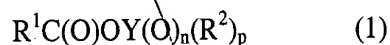
group or a group of formula:



wherein R^2 is the same as defined above, n and p are an integer of 1 or 2; and when Y is a carbon atom, n=1 and p=1, when Y is a phosphorous atom, n=1 and p=2, and when Y is sulfur atom, n=2 and p=1 and R^2 denotes an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group,

provided that said amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy and imidazolyl groups which may be present in R^1 and R^2 and substituent groups contained therein are in a protected form.

18. (New) A method for producing a mixed acid anhydride of formula (1):



wherein R^1 , R^2 , Y, n and p denote the same as defined below, which comprises adding a carboxylic acid of formula (2):



wherein R^1 denotes

a group of formula (6): $R^{11} R^{12} N-A-$ (6)

wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or an amino-protecting group, and

R^{12} represents an amino-protecting group, or a group of formula: $R^{13}-CO$,

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wherein R^{13} represents a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group or a hetero ring, which may be substituted with a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a group of formula: $R^{14}R^{15}N$ - and optionally further with at least one group selected from

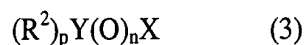
a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, an alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with an amino and carboxyl groups, an amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy, imidazolyl group,

wherein R^{14} is an amino-protecting group, and

R^{15} represents a hydrogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group, a hetero ring or an amino-protecting group,

A represents an alkylene group, an alkenylene group, an alkynylene group, an arylene group, an aralkylene group, an arylalkenylene group, an arylalkynylene group, an oxazole ring, a thiazole ring, or an imidazole ring, and

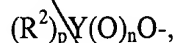
an organic base to a solution of a carboxylic acid activating agent of formula (3):



wherein R^2 denotes a chain, branched or cyclic (C1-C6) alkyl group, which may be substituted with a halogen atom, a phenyl which may be substituted with a halogen or (C1-C3) alkyl group, a chain or cyclic (C1-C6) alkoxy group, or a phenoxy group which may be substituted with a halogen or C1-C3 alkyl group,

Y denotes a carbon atom, a phosphorus atom, or a sulfur atom,

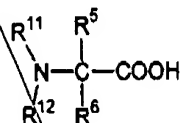
X denotes a fluorine atom, a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, a cyano group or a group of formula:



wherein R^2 is the same as defined above, n and p are an integer of 1 or 2; and when Y is a carbon atom, n=1 and p=1, when Y is a phosphorous atom, n=1 and p=2, and when Y is sulfur atom, n=2 and p=1 and R^2 denotes an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group,

provided that said amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy and imidazolyl groups which may be present in R^1 and R^2 and substituent groups contained therein are in a protected form.

19. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein said carboxylic acid of formula (1) is an α -amino acid derivative of formula (7):

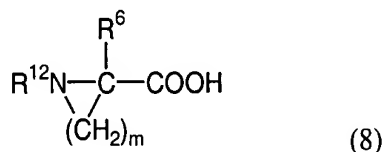


wherein R^5 and R^6 represent a hydrogen atom or a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group or a hetero ring, both of which may be each substituted with (a) a hydroxy group or a halogen atom, or (b) at least one group selected from a carbamoyl group, a methylmercapto group, an alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with a protected amino and carboxyl groups, and an amino mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy or imidazolyl group, R^{11} is a hydrogen atom or an amino-protecting group, R^{12} represents an amino-protecting group or a group of formula: $R^{13}CO-$, wherein R^{13} represents a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group or a hetero ring, which may be substituted with (c) a hydroxy or a halogen atom, or (e) a group of formula: $R^{14}R^{15}N-$ and optionally further with at least one group selected from a carbamoyl

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group, a methylmercapto group, alkyl (C1-C3) dithio group, of which alkyl is substituted with a protected amino and carboxyl groups, an amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy, or imidazolyl group, wherein R¹⁴ is an amino-protecting group, R¹⁵ represents a hydrogen atom or an amino-protecting group, and R¹¹ and R¹², and R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ may independently form an alkyleneimine group, a 4-pyrimidinone-3-yl group or the like, provided that said amino, mercapto, guanidyl, carboxyl, hydroxy and imidazolyl groups which may be present in R¹¹, R¹², R⁵ and R⁶ or substituent groups contained therein are in a protected form.

(20) (New) A method according to claim 19, wherein said carboxylic acid is a cyclic α -amino acid derivative of formula (8):



wherein R¹² and R⁶ independently denote the same as defined in claim 19, and m denotes an integer from 1 to 10.